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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Nicolas ECHES, *et al.*                      Art Unit : 3643  
Serial No. : 10/522,414                                      Examiner : John D. Holman  
Filing Date: January 26, 2005  
Title : SEALING BAND FOR PROJECTILE, SUB-CALIBER PROJECTILE  
AND AMMUNITION EQUIPPED WITH SUCH A BAND

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Customer Window  
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany St.  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 14, 2006, applicants hereby provisionally elect, with traverse, to prosecute the claims of Group I (claims 1-10 and 16 and 17) in this application.

However, applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement since the subject matter of all of claims 1-17, is sufficiently related that a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the elected claims would necessarily encompass a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the non-elected claims. Thus, search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP § 803 in which states that "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits." This policy should apply in the present application to

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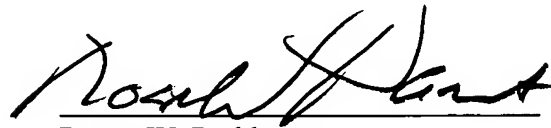
avoid unnecessary delay and expense to applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP

July 12, 2006

Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger W. Parkhurst", written over a horizontal line.

Roger W. Parkhurst

Registration No. 25,177

RWP/lmw

Attorney Docket No.: 28971.0132

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP  
1330 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036-1795  
Tel: (202) 429-3000